

## New York Tribune.

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## Speaker Clark and the Crime of 1912.

Speaker Champ Clark seems disposed to assume a Samuel J. Tildenish attitude toward the Wilson administration. Mr. Wilson has the title and is enjoying what Mr. Tilden used to call the "usufruct" of the Presidential office. But the Speaker has a claim of his own to it under the "higher law." When he gets into the twilight zone of speculation as to what would have happened if something hadn't gone wrong at a critical moment at Baltimore he sees himself signing tariff and currency acts and distributing baskets of commissions to Missouri patriots.

He was in that happy twilight zone when he addressed an audience on Thursday night in Baltimore—the very spot where the Crime of 1912 was committed. These were his words: "Therefore, I say to you in all truth that I should be in the White House to-night if the election of 1912 had been the natural outcome of the primary election." It is Mr. Clark's contention that he got more votes in the primary states than Mr. Wilson did and that the voice of the people was therefore disregarded when the Democratic Presidential nomination was taken from him and awarded to his rival. He also avers, with the full support of historical evidence, that he is the first candidate since the war getting a majority vote in a Democratic national convention who failed to receive thereafter a nomination under the two-thirds rule. These may be somewhat vague proofs of a title to the Presidency, but many a proud throne has been claimed on allegations of far less substance.

"Visiting statesmen" like William E. Chandler and "Calico Charley" Foster helped to divert the Presidency from Tilden by their activities in 1876-77 in Louisiana, Florida and South Carolina. The "visiting statesman" of 1912 who heads Speaker Clark's list is William J. Bryan, who, though instructed for Clark, really prevented the latter's nomination by going over to Wilson. If the Speaker ever writes a history of the Crime of 1912 Mr. Bryan will figure in it in blacker letters than did Chandler and Foster, or even the eight majority members of the Electoral Commission, in Mr. Tilden's version of the Crime of 1877.

"When I am President I want you to ask me to come over here to your banquet," said Mr. Clark in closing his address to the Baltimore merchants and manufacturers. This may be taken as a notice that the Speaker is not going to conform to the Tilden model too closely and is not going to condone his exclusion from the Presidency by weakly declining to run for the Democratic nomination at the very next opportunity. Tilden unwisely let Hancock do the running for him in 1880. Mr. Clark should run again on his own account in 1916, not only to avenge an historic wrong, but to give the Democratic voters a chance to vindicate the majesty of the popular primary principle so unparagonably affronted in his person and at his expense.

## The Arbitration Treaties.

The Senate Committee on Foreign Relations reported out yesterday twenty-four general arbitration treaties which had been held up since last summer by a discreditable campaign of obstruction. A few Senators—among them Mr. O'Gorman—have objected to ratification because under one convention—that with Great Britain—it seemed probable that the dispute over the Panama Canal tolls would be sent to the Hague Permanent Court of Arbitration.

The treaties, which are practically identical and are in many cases renewals of lapsed compacts, except from submission differences arising from the interpretation of international agreements if these affect the vital interests, independence or honor of the two contracting states. There is no reason why with this safeguard the conventions should not be ratified. The United States has taken an advanced position in urging international arbitrations as a substitute for war, and any wavering now would be unfortunate.

Let us stand fast to our professions as a worker for the world's peace. If the dispute over the remission of canal tolls to American coastwise shipping is excluded by the language of the treaty with Great Britain, that controversy will remain in statu quo. If it is not excluded we ought to be willing to send it to the Hague court.

## China's Official Religion.

The reedification of the Confucian system of worship by the Chinese government is likely to be regarded with complacency even by earnest propagandists of Christianity. We may be sure that it does not mean an intolerant campaign against Christianity or persecution of missionaries. China is too far advanced for that. Religious liberty has been established and cannot be abolished. Indeed, all that we know of Mr. Yuan assures us that he would not, if he could, turn the nation back to intolerance. Nor does it mean that Confucianism is to be made an established religion with special rights and privileges such as established churches in European lands have enjoyed.

What it means is that the President of the republic and his colleagues are to set to the nation the example of piety by attending public worship at the great temples of their ancestral faith. That indicates in turn that so far as the government can help it China is not to become a nation without a religion. While Christianity has made great progress there, it still embraces only an insignificant percentage of the people, and for Confucianism to be abandoned would mean that the masses would be left without any faith or system of ethics. And if it were known that the President had abandoned the people would largely abandon it, too, or else would rise against their apostate chief. It is a matter of ethical expediency and of political

prudence for Mr. Yuan to maintain a public profession of that faith which is still the general faith of China.

## Anti-Murphy Movements.

That anti-Murphy movement in the National Democratic Club was a splendid achievement—save for the fact that it didn't move. The committee which was to start it held a meeting according to schedule, transacted its routine business and adjourned without even a reference to Murphy. The explanation may lie in the fact that most of those listed as being present, including Murphy's own State Senator, don't believe in anti-Murphy movements.

The boss is fortunate in his friends, and even more fortunate in having his friends scattered around in strategic positions. The state hasn't yet forgotten the "Letters to a Boss," in which Murphy received the assurance of Mr. Menken through an intermediary that nobody inimical to him would be put at the head of the Democratic League. And, as events worked out, the Democratic League did Murphy excellent service, for it killed off Connors as Democratic state chairman and left Murphy in control of the state. When the anti-boss movement in the National Democratic Club begins to move it is to be hoped it won't fall into the control of "enemies" of Murphy as vicious as those who engineered the Democratic League movement. If it does, Mr. Whitman may be the state's only hope against a Murphy Czardom.

## Fair Play for Women.

Common sense and justice uphold Fire Commissioner Adamson in his decision to appoint women inspectors in the Bureau of Fire Prevention. He finds that various duties of the bureau can be performed by women just as ably as by men. So they are to be appointed upon an equal footing with men—a simple enough proposition, even though it is beyond the reach of Mr. Joseph Johnson's intellects.

This new common sense attitude toward women may not be as pretty as the ancient chivalry. But when questions of bread and butter and the day's work are uppermost chivalry never seems to count for much, anyway. And as long as women have to face such questions nowadays they may be pardoned for preferring a little straightforward fair play that actually works to a myth that isn't often translated into daily experience.

## Lessons of Another Shipwreck.

The Atlantic Ocean writes a grim sequel to the International Conference on Safety of Life at Sea, which is also a confirmation of the need of such a gathering and of the most practical results that it could produce. It may be said that the Monroe disaster was due to a cause—the fog—beyond human power to control or to abate. That is true. But some things which cannot be abolished or prevented may be rendered harmless.

Wireless telegraphy worked well in sending out news of the disaster and appeals for aid. Then the question arises whether it could not have been employed before for giving notice of the progress of the vessels and their approximate courses. Searchlights are impotent in a dense fog, and bells and whistles may be unavailing. But surely the wireless message might be utilized to serve where they fail. If the cry of distress could be heard from the Virginia Capes to Boston, a signal of warning could have reached between the Monroe and the Nantucket.

The Monroe seems to have had lifeboats enough for all, but she went down before they could be put to use. That raises the question of bulkheads to prevent sudden sinking. The Monroe had bulkheads, but it is suggested that the tremendous impact of the Nantucket may have twisted the hull so that the communicating doors could not be closed. But the doors should not have been open. When the vessel plunged into that blinding fog all precautions should have been taken, closing bulkhead doors first of all. Otherwise we may have to come to requiring bulkheads to be solid, with no openings below the waterline.

The perils of the sea are many and varied, but each has its method of prevention, and the versatility and perseverance of man's inventive ingenuity should be equal to the needs which are still to be met.

## Fines for Wealthy Smugglers.

Judge Martin's decision in the Heitmeyer smuggling case, that concealment of an article of personal adornment was not so grievous an offense as smuggling in the line of trade, may be good legal tradition, but it is one which makes the average civilian agree that the tradition ought to be changed. Heitmeyer and the woman travelling with him, his co-defendant, pleaded guilty to concealing jewelry, intending to avoid payment of the duty on it. They were caught. Under this ruling they got off with a fine of \$1,000 each, which was promptly paid.

Such a fine to these criminals of wealth amounted to but a trifling annoyance. The experience may, indeed, deter these individuals from smuggling again, but it is to be feared it will have little effect on other persons willing to take a chance on defrauding the government. Another judge sitting recently in the Criminal Branch of the United States District Court declared that nothing short of jail sentences for men or women caught smuggling will meet the requirements. Jail terms are a penalty which no smuggler, male or female, wishes to encounter, whereas many of the prosperous sort are willing to gamble with the government on getting caught with the goods so long as their stake is merely a fine.

## Mob Psychology and a Bank.

The queer, rudimentary way in which a crowd thinks and acts showed in the utterly unreasoning run on the Bank for Savings. Here was one of the strongest savings institutions in the city—strongest in resources, strongest in affiliations. Yet upon some utterly unfounded rumor a line formed at the paying teller's window. After that the panic spread like fire in a tenement. The original rumor, whatever it was, disappeared in the crowd. Nobody knew or cared to know the facts or would listen to reason.

It is worth remembering that this mob psychology made its appearance not in an angry, frenzied assemblage but in an orderly line of reasonably calm citizens. So it does frequently, one must regretfully concede. The example of a mass of men has a strong persuasive force under every set of conditions. At times it even seems as if many humans did everything except bleed.

Gaffney's opinion of District Attorney Whitman as a prosecutor is that he "smokes fine cigars." He may want to amend and enlarge it after the grand jury reports.

## The Conning Tower

Lines on the Receipt of a New Waste Basket.

Dear Editor: My thanks again; These for the goodly boon I found beside my desklet when I got there yesternoon.

A superdreadnought basket, wrought Of Zn (slang for zinc). Wherein shall lie who knows what thought—What future flows of ink!

Wherein each evening I shall chuck What masterpiece—who knows! And—such is literary luck—What pearls of verse and prose!

Wherein each evening I shall cast The stuff I do not print, Until, approaching line the last, I finish with my stint.

O yawning basket built of zinc, Were't not for thine abyss The poem of some contrib—just think!—Had been in place of this!

And in Deuteronomy one finds "Blessed shall be thy basket."

## THE DIARY OF OUR OWN SAMUEL PEPPYS.

January 29—Up, and to my dentist's, who laboured over me near 2 hours, yet pained me no whit. But when I rose from the chair I was very weary, and, going to my office and essaying to work, found I could do nought. So home, and did on my fine suit and to a great banquet of men that did go to the great Michigan University, and I did meet with H. Hutchins the president who told me how his father had read the Tribune newspaper years ago. Mr. Hutchins I found a fine man, and a well-spoken, too, and then many did make speeches; Dean Worcester and H. Rogers the law-professor from Yale College and Paul Dickey the playwright. But the best talker of all was W. McAndrew the high school principal, and he is a fine, lovable man, too, as fine as is in this town. To my office then, and the printing men greatly impressed with my appearing in my fine suit, and, to say sooth, I was not comfortable in it. Home then, later than usual, and to bed.

30—Stopped at home all the day and in the evening to my office, where I did labour with great zest. Drew my wage this day, too, and not without a sense of shame, neither. For to be rewarded for having so pleasant a task is a rare thing, and I do thank Heaven for it.

## To Mr. Peppys.

Who has called me poet, in the public prints, Whaddye mean a poet? And wotter? 'S a poem? I pipe one editor that falls For things that start the lines with capitals, Yet, so to speak, do not appear to fell. Why, often, when I'd let 'em rung the bell, 'Tis just the postman (two cents due) that calls. Had I the harp that hangs in Tara's halls I'd trade it for some thing that I could sell.

You bet I would. I'd almost rather be A paragraph with a wheeze outturn. So, might I, were he I and I were he, Lie late a-bed upon a whiter moon— Contris, a corps, upon the job for me, And hear my chauffeur foot his motor horn.

WILLIAM THORNBOROUGH LARNER.

The idea that young men go to college less for learning's sake than for what friends they make, and for what material good their friendships may bring after graduation, may be modern. Still, orb this, from "The Guardian," March 13, 1713: "It is one great advantage which men educated at our universities do usually enjoy above others, that they often contract friendships there which are of service to them in all the parts of their future life."

## OUR OWN PATTERNS.

Sir: For the benefit of your readers who wish the last faint peep at fashions in the theatres I announce that the prevailing cut for evening gowns at first nights is Low and Behold in front and V de Boheme in back. For further particulars see my book, "Who Put Who on the Stage and Why." HECTOR.

"They claim," says Jimmy Sheekard, speaking of the Feds, "that I threw them down and was seeking to hold them up." An unreasonable claim, even to put forward of J. Sheekard.

GREAT THOUGHTS ABOUT LITTLE ANIMALS OR LITTLE THOUGHTS ABOUT GREAT ANIMALS BY GELIET BURGESS.

## THE CATERPILLAR.

The Caterpillar's Feet are Small, They are not Very Strong; 'Tis Strange, for Caterpillars all Are over Eight Feet Long!

Speaking of such things, as we were the other day, 'Arry, who seems to be in the marine insurance business, rises to inquire whether Vincent's yacht is an "X."

## WHY THE SOCIALIST PARTY IS GROWING.

[From the New York Law Journal.] Clerk, 25, admitted, intelligent, well educated, serious, conscientious, desires position; salary \$3 weekly; excellent character references. Box 77, this office. 26-5

## "WHOM ARE YOU? SAID CYRIL."

[From the Satevepost.] "The only safe remedy is to refuse whomever can get along without it."

## THE SHANGHAI COST OF LIVING.

Sir: A friend of mine, who is travelling in China, writes me that he paid \$12 for a \$4.50 pair of shoes in Shanghai. CHEERFUL PHIL.

"Do the Income-Taxers allow a thousand dollars exemption for each wife?" queries J. K. B. The taxers do; but the wives frequently don't.

## THE FEDERAL LEAGUE, S. TO S.

[Harry Schumacher in the Evening Mail.] If it is true that Fred Falkenberg, Fred Blanding and Fred Kiefer have actually jumped the Nape and will appear in Federal uniforms next season.

## Capsule Critiques.

A novel by Gene Stratton-Porter, No matter how short, should be shorter; Eight chapters of mush And twenty of gush— And it costs you a buck and a quarter!

REBECE.

The lit'ry critics are discussing again the theme of realism. "The great difficulty with modern fiction," says one, "is the American public's demand for happy ending."

That's where colyming has it on the fiction game. Any ending is happy. F. P. A.

## UNRECONCILED.



SPEAKER CLARK—That ought to be my house.

## THE PEOPLE'S COLUMN

An Open Forum for Public Debate.

## ANTI-TRUST BLUFF AND BLUSTER

The Provisions Against Interlocking Directorates Would Work Great Hardship.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: I am greatly pleased with your recent editorial headed "Too Much Bluff and Bluster in the Anti-Trust Bills." You clearly point out the unnecessary hardship which the bill forbidding interlocking directorates would work in the case of a person who happened to be a director or officer in any sort of railway enterprise, even a trolley line, and holding a like place upon the board of his local bank, no matter how remote. By failing to carry your discussion of the bill just one point further you failed to deal with a feature of special interest to the writer.

The bill as at present constituted forbids absolutely and under all circumstances the holding of a directorship at the same time in more than one bank under the federal reserve act by any person. As your editorial states, a great majority of the banks of this country are small country banks, with purely local interests. It is also true that in many of the smaller communities which support a bank it would be practically impossible to get together a directorate of representative business men (such as the Controller of the Currency has always insisted upon before the granting of a charter) who are not members of the boards of other banks in other country towns.

Twenty-five years ago, when one or three banks was the rule in many of the rural counties of this state, these banks reached out for stockholders throughout their own sparsely settled counties. These boards of directors were made up of representative business men from the localities where the banks' stocks were held. As the smaller towns grew and other banks were organized these same men naturally interested themselves in the newly organized banks in their home towns, and their experience at once placed them upon the boards of the newer institutions. That the services of these men are needed and desired by the banks with which they were originally associated is proved by their election to these boards year after year, while their loss to the directorates of their local banks would be a serious matter indeed.

Moreover, much of the stock of the older banks is now held by the widows and daughters of former stockholders, totally uninitiated both by experience and desire to take a hand in the management of the banks' affairs. In some of these older country banks it is now difficult to fill even a single vacancy in the directorate. What will it be under the proposed order of things, with many of their present directors disqualified? This very condition now exists in one bank of whose board the writer is a member, and is rapidly becoming the case in another. His third banking connection stands to lose its president, a member of its discount committee, the chairman of its examining committee and another valued member of its board. Why should these men be denied the right to participate in the management of these banking enterprises in which their money is invested and the choice of whose stockholders they are?

LOUIS DU BOIS.

Livingston Manor, N. Y., Jan. 27, 1914.

## England or England?

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: Will you kindly, in the columns of The Tribune, enlighten me as to the correct pronunciation of the word "England"? Custom has, I believe, decreed it to be "England," but would not the purist pro-

nounce it just as it is spelled, with the "E" instead of the "I" sound in the first syllable? HENRY MERRITT.

New York, January 30, 1914.

"[England] is the one accepted pronunciation to-day, despite purists and ancient history.—Ed.]

## A DEMOCRAT WITH A SMALL "D"

He Arouses a Suffragist to Sundry Jeers and Advice.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: Once upon a time there was a great politician who always and everywhere proclaimed "I am a Democrat." He has passed on. And now, in this year of our Lord 1914, another man has arisen who says "I am a democrat with a small 'd,'" just as often in speech and in letter as his predecessor.

John Martin tells the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth when he says he is "a democrat with a small 'd.'" Having been born in a monarchy, having lived most of his life in a monarchy, how could it be possible for him to spell democracy any other way? It takes a great many years for some men to learn what our country means to its citizens, and so we must not think too harshly of Mr. Martin for standing true to his early convictions, fostered in another country. If he continues to live in America for many years I am sure he cannot but be influenced by our principles, and some day will say, "Once I was blind, but now I can see." He is on his way—for he has come as far as Staten Island, and that is pretty near New York, the great American stronghold.

Mr. Martin's attitude as a member of the New York Board of Education again shows up that small "d." For he considers that it is wrong for a school teacher to become a mother, and wants her discharged for such a crime. Some day New York is going to have a real Board of Education which will not spell democracy with a small "d," nor with even a capital "D," but it will spell the whole word with capitals, large capitals, both in letter and in spirit. N. C.

New York, Jan. 27, 1914.

## THE DANCE MADNESS

How the Tango Has Been Modified Since It Left the Mud Huts in Argentina. To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: In these days of dance madness it is difficult to open a New York newspaper without seeing something about the tango. Not long ago there was an article describing how two young American girls went to the Argentine Republic to see this danced by the natives in its original form. It appears that in Buenos Ayres they could find out little about the tango.

This was not to be wondered at, considering that it is only danced by the "gauchos," or cowboys, at the small "bailes," or dances, that they give in their mud huts or, more commonly, in the houses of ill repute which exist in every country town. The origin of the dance is probably Eastern, having been brought to Spain by the Moors and from there to South America, where it exists in various forms in all the South American republics. It has been claimed that the tango is a most elaborate dance and has more than two hundred steps as danced in Argentina. This is an absolute farce. The dance is a combination of round dancing and the immoral dancing still practised in the East. The so-called two hundred steps

are merely variations produced at the time by the dancer, generally under the influence of drink, and portray the sensual emotions and innate beastliness of his unrestrained animal nature.

The tango, as produced by professional dancers in New York and London, is a comparatively harmless and much expurgated edition of the original. The steps now taught have been classified and put into shape by the exploiters of the dance, who have, without doubt, profited considerably by introducing the "Argentine tango" into smart society.

V. M. FITZHUGH.

No. 71 Irving Place, New York, Jan. 3, 1914.

## MOTHERS AND OTHERS

The Business of Being a Woman as "Anti" Sees It.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: In his letter of January 23 H. J. Howard says: "Something must be wrong that there are so many women who believe motherhood is woman's prime duty." Granted there is something wrong, how does he expect woman's prime duty to be right in and afford them the opportunity? Because Miss Tarbell holds up an ideal of motherhood which she has not herself achieved, is that any cause for condemnation? Surely she has had a mother and knows as much about "the business of being a woman" as Mr. Howard does. In fact, he is less authoritative on the subject of motherhood, because at no time in his life could he have had that ambition. There is nothing in the quotations cited by Mr. Howard to substantiate his claim that women need the ballot, even though they aspire to "intellectual interests." Even the pioneers of the woman's rights movement claimed that as early as 1840 woman had changed in her character "from a toy in the Turkish harem, or a drudge in the German fields, to a leader of thought in the literary circles of France, England and America," without having had the ballot in any of those countries.

There can be no "triumphs which intellectual women will win through political equality" which "will redound to the benefit of the mass of women" and society in general more than the psychological study and training of the children of a generation to become good citizens and politicians in the next, and also good mothers of the second generation to follow. ALICE EDITH ABELL.

President Wage Earners' Anti-Suffrage League.

New York, Jan. 29, 1914.

## Why "Faucet" for "Tap"?

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: The president of the Board of Water Supply tells us that "caterpillar water will be flowing from household faucets in about two years." How in the dickens did that bum French term "faucet" ever come into general use in this country in place of the good English word "tap"? S. R.

Forest Hills, Long Island, Jan. 24, 1914.

## Such Is Fame!

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: You evidently have not recognized in the writer of the letter upon Mr. O'Brien that distinguished Democrat who made the phrase which he called "Army go cheese!" famous. Fame is short-lived! W. E.

Brooklyn, Jan. 30, 1914.